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1946-47 World Citrus Production Exceeds Previous Year and Is Much Larger Than Prewar. (Page 437)

South American Rice Exports in 1947 May Nearly Equal 1946 Record.(Page 443)

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L A T E N E W S

Crops prospects in Canada's Maritime Provinces were improved by warmer weather late in June, and an average potato crop is expected. In the Province of Quebec, growth has been rapid, but many fields were left unsown, owing to the lateness of the season. The pastures and hay outlook is much improved. In Ontario, warm dry weather has improved the general outlook, but spring grain prospects are poor because of low acreage and lateness. Fall wheat and hay prospects are variable. Prairie Province conditions are generally good. Frequent rains in British Columbia have interfered with haying locally, but most crop growths has been reported good.

Madagascar's 1947 rice crop is reported at 36,360,000 bushels, (1,145 million pounds milled), compared with 34,290,000 bushels (1,080 million pounds) a year earlier, and the prewar (1935-39) average of 33,820,000 bushels (1,065 million pounds). Exports of milled rice in 1946 equalled 12 million pounds, and during the first quarter of 1947 shipments abroad were negligible.

Recent reports from China indicate the spring drought has lowered, by a substantial percentage, the wheat harvest in portions of Hopei, Honan, Shantung and Shansi Provinces.

1946 WORLD CITRUS PRODUCTION 3 PERCENT ABOVE PREVIOUS CROP 1/

The 1946-47 crop of citrus fruits (oranges, tangerines, grapefruit and lemons) in major producing countries of the world is estimated at 342 million boxes, or 3 percent greater than the 1945-46 crop of 332 million (revised estimate) and 27 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average of 269 million boxes.

Of the 342 million boxes, oranges account for 249 million, grapefruit 65 million and lemons 28 million boxes. The United States leads in the production of citrus fruits, with 47 percent of the oranges and tangerines, 95 percent of the grapefruit and 52 percent of the lemons from the 1946-47 crop.

Oranges: The 249 million box estimate for the 1946-47 season's orange and tangerine crop is 4 percent greater than the 1945-46 world production of 239 million boxes, but is 19 percent larger than the 1935-39 average of 210 million boxes. The North American crop of 129 million boxes accounts for about 52 percent of the total. South America follows with 49 million or about 20 percent, Europe with nearly 27 million or about 11 percent, Asia 25 million or 10 percent, Africa 17 million or 7 percent, and Oceania about 2 million boxes or slightly less than 1 percent of the world total.

In North America, the bulk of the production is in the United States where the 1946-47 crop is expected to total 118 million boxes. The Mexican crop of 9 million boxes is about the same as the 1945-46 production but nearly double the prewar average.

The European estimate of nearly 27 million boxes is about 20 percent less than the 1945-46 crop of 33 million boxes and 31 percent below the prewar (1935-39) average of about 39 million boxes, due chiefly to damage from freezing temperatures to both trees and fruit in Spain during the past two seasons. The 1946 crop of 15.7 million boxes is less than the 1945 crop by 4.7 million boxes. Official estimates recently released in Spain have revised production figures very substantially upward particularly for the war period, indicating little effect upon production during those years. The Italian crop of 9.6 million boxes is slightly less than last season's crop and about 2.1 million below the prewar average.

The Palestine estimate has been reduced over a million boxes, from earlier estimates of 10 million to 8.8 million, only slightly larger than prewar. The crop in Turkey, of about 1.3 million boxes, herein reported for the first time, is slightly larger than that of the previous season but about 12 percent below the prewar average. Production in Japan of 12 million boxes approximates that of a year ago but is about 24 percent below the 1935-39 average.

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1942-46
Oranges, including tangerines

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946 <u>a/</u>
	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>
North America:						
Costa Rica	6	34	33	30	30	30
Mexico	4,761	7,561	8,317	8,943	9,280	9,291
United States	67,034	89,349	106,651	113,210	104,350	117,620
Cuba	1,050	1,000	1,250	625	1,000	1,250
Dominican Republic :	500	549	492	321	514	525
Jamaica	595	525	500	525	600	315
Trinidad and Tobago:	17	20	20	26	25	25
Total	73,963	99,038	117,263	123,680	115,799	129,056
Europe:						
Aegean Islands:	43	40	40	40	40	40
France	37	24	20	20	20	20
Greece	1,052	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,235	1,189
Italy	11,701	11,495	11,621	8,489	9,715	9,574
Malta	9	9	9	9	9	9
Spain	25,824	24,921	27,166	30,578	22,046	15,747
Total	38,666	37,489	39,856	40,136	33,065	26,579
Asia:						
Cyprus	441	300	325	369	317	600
Iran	483	1,200	1,575	1,300	1,500	1,400
Lebanon	<u>b/</u> 1,093	<u>b/</u> 1,168	<u>b/</u> 1,095	827	1,553	1,211
Palestine	8,652	5,000	8,400	6,000	8,000	8,750
Syria	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	70	70	70
Turkey	1,444	677	834	972	1,110	1,265
Japan	15,895	17,088	17,500	15,669	11,912	12,000
Philippine Islands :	136	110	100	90	90	90
Total	28,144	25,543	29,829	25,297	24,552	25,386
South America:						
Argentina	9,212	18,021	11,240	11,136	9,092	10,724
Brazil.....	34,466	35,465	32,713	27,000	28,000	30,000
Chile	250	400	415	440	500	500
Ecuador	580	420	500	475	493	444
Paraguay	5,000	7,000	7,394	7,000	6,700	6,450
Surinam	<u>a/</u> 20	15	35	52	67	120
Uruguay	1,300	1,300	1,100	900	794	782
Total	50,828	62,681	53,397	47,003	45,646	49,020

continued--

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1942-46
Oranges, including tangerines

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946 a/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	boxes	boxes	boxes	boxes	boxes	boxes
Africa:						
Algeria	3,198	3,144	2,997	2,844	3,849	3,361
British East Africa	100	130	140	150	144	150
Egypt	6,455	6,478	7,252	6,915	6,742	6,900
French Morocco ..	1,203	1,845	1,464	1,766	2,149	2,200
Northern Rhodesia:	11	12	12	13	13	13
Southern Rhodesia:	193	200	200	200	200	200
Tunisia	323	300	250	239	362	300
Union of South Africa	4,000	6,079	6,860	4,827	3,780	4,000
Total	15,483	18,188	19,175	16,954	17,239	17,124
Oceania:						
Australia	2,683	2,100	2,666	2,875	2,510	2,300
New Zealand	23	20	9	14	16	11
Total	2,706	2,120	2,675	2,889	2,526	2,311
World total	209,790	245,059	262,195	255,959	238,827	249,476

Grapefruit

North America:						
United States	31,787	50,481	56,090	52,180	63,450	61,490
Cuba	375	300	350	325	212	195
Jamaica	213	225	250	275	266	250
Puerto Rico	448	500	500	500	500	500
Trinidad and Tobago	63	152	123	190	231	200
Total	32,886	51,658	57,313	53,470	64,659	62,635
Asia:						
Palestine	1,445	300	800	692	800	1,100
South America:						
Argentina	a/ 49	196	182	112	99	168
Africa:						
Union of South Africa	431	858	968	681	534	675
World Total	34,811	53,012	59,263	54,955	66,092	64,578

continued --

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1942-46
LEMONS

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946 <u>a/</u>
	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>	1,000 <u>boxes</u>
<u>North America:</u>						
United States	9,552	14,880	11,050	12,550	14,450	14,700
<u>Europe:</u>						
Aegean Islands ...	9	10	10	10	10	10
Greece	367	375	375	375	328	406
Italy	9,637	9,204	8,092	6,784	6,374	7,397
Spain	1,444	1,085	1,573	1,600	1,000	1,000
Total	11,457	10,674	10,050	8,769	7,712	8,813
<u>Asia:</u>						
Cyprus	53	31	56	43	89	83
Lebanon	<u>b/</u> 464	<u>b/</u> 350	<u>b/</u> 350	336	725	435
Palestine	88	60	60	312	350	440
Syria	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	8	9	9
Total	605	441	466	699	1,173	967
<u>South America:</u>						
Argentina	371	1,729	1,075	998	1,021	1,276
Brazil	1,612	1,800	1,800	1,500	1,500	1,200
Chile	250	260	290	290	350	450
Total	2,233	3,789	3,165	2,788	2,871	2,926
<u>Africa:</u>						
Algeria	102	89	95	82	119	104
Egypt	83	134	100	140	150	150
Tunisia	35	40	40	44	174	180
Union of South Africa	142	211	242	170	133	133
Total	362	474	477	436	576	567
<u>Oceania:</u>						
Australia	308	290	364	335	336	427
New Zealand	65	50	56	62	54	60
Total	373	340	420	397	390	487
World total	24,582	30,598	25,628	25,639	27,172	28,460

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign-service officers, results of office research and other information. Production estimates relate to the crop from bloom of year shown. Harvesting in Northern Hemisphere countries begins about November and in Southern Hemisphere about February of the following year. Production in foreign countries converted to boxes of the following weights. Oranges, 70 pounds; grapefruit, 80 pounds; lemons, 76 pounds. a/ Preliminary. b/ Includes Syria. c/ Included in Lebanon. d/ less than 5 years.

In South America, recent official Brazilian figures increased substantially the estimates of total production in that country during the past few seasons. The resultant increases are reported in the non-exporting areas, however, where the trees are grown on sweet orange rootstock and Tristeza disease has not been an important factor. In the two exporting districts, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, production in 1946-47 is estimated at only 9 million boxes as compared with nearly 23 million boxes prewar (1935-39), chiefly the result of loss of trees from Tristeza. Paraguayan estimates have been increased substantially, also, as compared with earlier reports to include total crop whereas previously only the commercial crop was reported. Paraguayan oranges are mostly consumed within the country, only a small quantity being exported to neighboring countries.

The African crop, estimated at 17 million boxes, is about the same as the 1945-46 production but nearly 11 percent greater than the 1935-39 average. Slight increases in Egypt, French Morocco and South Africa are balanced by a shorter crop in Algeria. The 2.3 million box estimate for Australia is about 200,000 boxes below last season's production.

Grapefruit: The 1946-47 grapefruit crop, now expected to total nearly 65 million boxes, is about 2 percent less than the 1945-46 production in important producing countries, but is 86 percent above the 1935-39 average of nearly 35 million boxes. North American production, almost 63 million boxes and mostly in the United States, is about 3 percent below that of the previous season due to losses from the February freeze in Florida.

The Palestine crop of 1.1 million boxes is 38 percent above that of the previous season but 24 percent below the 1935-39 average of 1.4 million boxes. The South African crop, expected to total 675 thousand boxes, is 26 percent greater than the 1945-46 crop. In Argentina, the expected production of 168 thousand boxes is the largest since 1943.

Lemons: The estimated 28.5 million box 1946-47 lemon crop in the major countries is 5 percent greater than the 27.2 million boxes produced in 1945-46. The United States crop of 14.7 million boxes, 52 percent of the total, is slightly larger than that of last season and 54 percent greater than the 1935-39 average. The European crop is expected to total 8.8 million boxes, 14 percent above last season's but 23 percent below the prewar average of nearly 11.5 million boxes. Italy with 7.4 million, Spain 1 million and Greece with 406 thousand boxes account for nearly all of the European lemon crop.

(Continued on page 454)

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSARGENTINE WHEAT
ESTIMATE REVISED

The 1946 wheat crop in Argentina has been revised to 206,314,000 bushels, or about 7 percent less than the previous estimate, on the basis of threshing returns. At that figure the outturn was below the 1935-39 average of 221.8 million bushels, though still more than 40 percent larger than the preceding crop.

The time during which the Government will pay a higher rate for the first 300 metric tons (11 million bushels) of a producers deliveries has been extended to July 31. The price to growers set for that initial amount is \$1.38 per bushel, compared with \$1.22 paid for the remaining deliveries.

CANADA'S CROP CONDITIONS
ARE REPORTED FAVORABLE

Present prospects are for a good outturn of wheat in the Prairie Provinces of Canada this year, according to condition reports late in June. Weather and growing conditions have been generally favorable though the season is somewhat later than usual, and barring adverse developments during the critical period of July and early August, many observers predict that the crop may equal or exceed that of a year ago. Last year's production of 421 million bushels exceeded the 1935-39 average by a third.

Subsoil moisture supplies were generally above average at the beginning of the season. Rainfall since April has been above normal in Manitoba and near normal in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Moisture has been fairly well distributed except in some areas of central and northern Saskatchewan and parts of the Peace River area, where rains were still needed in late June.

Weed growth, reported to be heavy, could cause considerable loss. Some losses from hail damage have been reported in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Since the development of grain crops is reported to be from 10 days to 2 weeks later than normal danger of damage from early frosts later in the season is increased.

SOUTH AMERICAN RICE SUPPLIES 1/ NEAR LAST YEAR'S RECORD

Rice exports from South America in 1947 may approach the record attained in the preceding year, as large crops again are being produced in nearly all exporting countries. Export supplies available from the 1947 rice harvest are estimated from 500 to 700 million pounds. If the latter quantity is exported, it would be as large as the record exports of last year from the countries of that Continent. Whether that volume is shipped depends in a large measure on the amount consumed in Brazil in place of wheat, which is in very short supply. Brazil's crop was reported about the same as the record of 1946. The surplus in Ecuador approximates last year's peak exports, and British Guiana is expected to ship as much, if not more, than in 1946. Exports from Chile are prohibited because of a small crop this year. Relatively small surpluses are reported in Surinam, Uruguay, Argentina, and possibly Paraguay.

SOUTH AMERICA: Exports of milled rice a/, average 1936-40, annual 1942-46

Country of destination	Average : 1936-40	: 1942	: 1943	: 1944	b/ : 1945	b/ : 1946
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds
Argentina	467	346	172	200	6,005:c/	10,000
Brazil	83,335	182,046	186,398	330,242	190,782	393,000
British Guiana ...	34,296	50,354	38,483	55,088	56,934	50,671
Chile	3	18,635	50,723	61,234	93,030	78,497
Colombia	3	1,676	232	128	321:c/	13,000
Ecuador	25,685	85,205	105,923	142,427	64,635	147,928
Paraguay	0	278	2,027	4	-	-
Peru	51	d/ 8,585	-	-	-	-
Surinam	e/ 12,465	1	-	-	-	c/ 2,500
Uruguay	3,775	2,659	1,693	-	-	1,690
Total	160,080	349,785	385,651	589,323	411,707	697,300

Compiled from official trade statistics, except as noted.

a/ Includes milled rice and rough rice in terms of milled. b/ Preliminary.

c/ Unofficial estimate. d/ Net imports equalled 6 million pounds. e/ Less than 5-year average.

A conservative estimate of Brazil's exportable surplus from the 1947 harvest is between 250 and 350 million pounds. Production is reported about equal to last year's record harvest. This estimate takes into consideration the fact that Brazilian wheat supplies perhaps are more deficient than last year, when the wheat shortage caused a sharp increase in rice con-

1/ A more extensive statement may be obtained upon request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

sumption (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 19, 1947, p. 345). Prices received for export rice, however, may also determine to quite an extent the volume exported during 1947. Brazil's 1946 exports were in the neighborhood of 400 million pounds, 21 percent more than the previous record, according to preliminary figures.

Two factors likely to have a bearing on the export price of rice in Brazil, as well as in other exporting countries of the Western Hemisphere are: (1) Brazil is not obligated to export rice to countries under contract with the United Kingdom at fixed prices as it has been during the past 3 years, and (2) that country dropped its membership in June from the International Emergency Food Council, and therefore no longer grants export permits under allocation to specified countries. This means that European and Western Hemisphere markets, as well as those in Asia, are open to the Brazilian rice trade.

Export supplies from Ecuador are expected to be at least as large as, and may exceed, those of 1946, when all-time high exports equalled 148 million pounds. Another record harvest is forecast from the May-August crop. Resumption of exports was permitted beginning June 1, in a decree which stipulated that for every 100 pounds exported, 50 pounds must be delivered to the Government for domestic utilization.

Exports from British Guiana may top last year's shipments of 51 million pounds. Record production was obtained in the 1946 harvest, from which 1947 exports are designated primarily to ^{the} Caribbean Islands.

Surinam has rice for export for the first time since 1941. Early in the season, a surplus of 30 million pounds of rough rice (20 million pounds milled) was declared available to the highest bidders, to whom export licenses were to be granted. In 1947, Uruguay harvested the largest crop on record, nearly 20 million pounds milled larger than production a year ago. Some surplus was reported early in the season to be available from the 1947 output.

Exports are prohibited in Chile this year, because of a very small harvest. In some years during the war, that country was the third largest exporter of rice in South America, and in 1945 the record shipments abroad were 93 million pounds.

FATS AND OILS

MEXICO'S FATS AND OILS
SUPPLY IMPROVES 1/

Mexico's 1947 fats and oils supply, forecast at 228,000 short tons, is only 2 percent larger than in 1946 but 15 percent above the previous year. About four-fifths of the quantity available is from domestic production of which 54 percent is vegetable oils. Increased output of all fats and oils and larger imports of vegetable oils are expected to more than offset a decrease in imports of animal fats.

MEXICO: Annual supplies of
fats and oils, 1944-47

Year	Domestic production		Imports		Total	
	Short tons	Per-cent	Short tons	Per-cent	Short tons	
1944	147,274	76.1	45,172	23.3	a/ 193,548	
1945	163,512	82.5	34,577	17.5	198,089	
1946	168,727	75.8	53,919	24.2	222,646	
1947 b/ ..	184,611	81.1	43,155	18.9	227,766	

American Embassy, Mexico City

a/ Includes 1,102 tons carry-over for which source is not known.

b/ Forecast by Embassy.

After several years of almost an uninterrupted rise, prices of most fats and oils in Mexico have decreased steadily in recent months. The downward movement has been more pronounced in vegetable oilseeds and oils, particularly coconut, sesame, cottonseed and peanut oils. As a result the Mexican government is permitting the exportation of a limited quantity of linseed and edible oils.

The expectation of lower prices and restrictions on credit has resulted in many buyers limiting their purchases to minimum short-term needs. Total stocks on June 1, 1947 were apparently no larger than on the corresponding date last year; however, current stocks are largely in the hands of mill owners and speculators, whereas, at this date in previous years they were chiefly in the hands of distributors, soap and shortening manufacturers, and other consumers. Present low prices and uncertainty as to future trends for oils, in contrast to high prices for wheat and certain other items, will probably cause a reduction in the acreage planted to oilseed crops this summer.

The decline in prices of animal fats and oils has been slight, and it is expected that present levels will be maintained, especially if international allocations for these commodities are continued and supplies available to Mexico from foreign sources are restricted.

1/ A more extensive statement may be obtained upon request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Flaxseed production in 1947 is forecast at 787,000 bushels compared with the revised estimate of 669,000 for last year. Between 40 and 45 percent will probably be exported as seed and the remainder will be crushed for oil. The country's paint industry consumes from 2,200 to 3,300 tons of linseed oil; if the surplus is not exported, it will be sold to domestic manufacturers of soap and shortening at a price below other oils better suited for such purposes.

Cottonseed production in 1947 is expected to exceed the 221,000 tons of a year ago. More than 2,200 tons of seed for planting were imported early in the season.

SWEDEN'S TALL OIL OUTPUT IMPROVES

Sweden's tall oil production for the first quarter of 1947 was 1,900 short tons compared with the total output for 1946 of approximately 6,400 tons, and the 1942-46 average of 6,000 tons.

Small quantities were exported in 1946, but an embargo was imposed in the spring of 1947 because of the domestic shortage of fats and oils. Though the demand for tall oil continues high, it is possible that the situation may ease sufficiently by the year's end to permit the removal of the embargo. Should this materialize, some quantities may be available for export.

Tall oil is obtained as a by-product derived from the waste liquors of the pinewood pulp mills. Though it is used chiefly in the manufacture of soft soap and washing powder, small quantities are also utilized as a substitute for linseed oil.

PERUVIAN FATS, OILS SUPPLY CONTINUES SHORT

Peru's fats and oils supply may continue short throughout 1947 because of an expected reduction in cottonseed output, the principal source of supply. Production of butter, lard, and tallow, minor domestic sources, is stationary or declining. Peru imported 8,000 short tons of fats and oils in 1946, but domestic requirements call for a larger quantity this year.

Prospects for such importation, however, are unfavorable because of scarce supplies and high prices in exporting countries, and Peru's shortage of foreign exchange.

Commercial production of cottonseed, the only large oil crop in Peru, is forecast at approximately 110,000 tons, a drop of 13 percent from the 1946 revised figure of 131,000 tons. Crude cottonseed oil production is expected to be less than 19,000 tons, compared with 22,000 a year ago. The area planted to cotton was about the same as the previous year, but the yield was adversely affected by insufficient water for irrigation, bad weather, and heavy insect infestation. Arrivals at the 21 cottonseed-oil mills of seed from the current crop are running considerably below the normal volume for this season of the year.

Butter ranks second in commercial importance in Peru's domestic fats and oil supply. Total marketing figures are not available, but the quantity in some years has been estimated at about 5,000 tons. The 1946 output, however, was less, reflecting a decline in milk production attributed to the scarcity and high price of feed. Since this situation has not improved, a further decline in butter output is expected this year.

Commercial lard production has normally averaged only about 2,200 tons. Commercial hog slaughter was exceptionally small in 1946 because of low official prices, and as a result, only 770 tons of lard were available to buyers. This year's output is expected to be larger since the price ceilings on live hogs have now been removed.

The small quantity of tallow produced in Peru is used for making soap as the quality is too poor for use in edible products. Total acquisitions by soap manufacturers in 1946 are estimated between 1,100 and 2,200 tons. The quantity available for 1947 is estimated at about a third less as a result of small cattle marketings and diversion away from the larger slaughterhouses, where ceiling prices are enforced. Other fats and oils produced in Peru include insignificant quantities of fish oil, linseed and castor oils.

The annual commercial demand for edible fats for home consumption is 28,000 to 33,000 tons. Present supplies are 15 to 20 percent less than requirements. Total imports in 1946 amounted to 8,000 tons consisting chiefly of lard, butter, and tallow from Argentina. Small quantities of peanut, sesame and linseed oils were received from Uruguay.

To supply domestic needs for 1947, Peru should import approximately 12,000 tons of fats and oils. This will be difficult because of high prices in Argentina, the principal source of supply, limited allocations from the United States where prices are lower, shortage of foreign exchange, and prices in Peru fixed at a level requiring government subsidy payments on imported products. Peru, however, has received an International Emergency Food Council allocation of 2,200 tons of Philippine coconut oil.

Considerable attention is being given by producers and the government to measures by which Peruvian agriculture can expand the domestic output of fats and oils. If cotton acreage were returned to the 1938 peak of over 470,000 acres compared with the present 346,000, cottonseed-oil output could be increased 35 percent. The comparatively low oil content of sunflower seed, peanuts, and soybeans is the chief objection to their commercial production. There is much interest, however, in the possibilities of the African oil palm. Preliminary results appear promising in northern Peru and in the valleys and the jungle areas of eastern Peru.

TOBACCO

U.S. SHARE IN BELGIAN TOBACCO IMPORTS UP

Belgium's imports of leaf tobacco during the period January-March 1947 were 10.8 million pounds of which 6.2 million, or 57 percent, were from the United States. Other chief sources of supply in the first quarter of this year were Argentina, Brazil, and the Dominican Republic.

In 1946, Belgium's total imports amounted to about 35 million pounds, or only slightly below the prewar (1935-39) average of 40 million. Last year the United States supplied 19 million pounds or 54 percent of the total, whereas in prewar years our share was 33 percent. Imports of cigarettes have increased sharply from prewar years. During the first quarter of this year, cigarette imports amounted to nearly 500,000 pounds, with the United States supplying 340,000 pounds. In 1938, imports from all sources were only 190,000 pounds.

Cigarette consumption in Belgium has increased sharply since the prewar period. For the first quarter of this year, consumption totaled 2 billion pieces, compared with an average of only 1.3 billion during each quarter of 1938. This represents a rise of more than 50 percent. Consumption of other tobacco products - cigars, cigarillos, smoking tobacco and snuff, - however, has declined since prewar. In 1938, cigarettes represented only 26 percent of Belgium's total tobacco consumption. During the first quarter of this year cigarettes accounted for 42 percent of total tobacco consumption.

Under the terms of the proposed Belgo-Netherlands customs union, a reduction in the tariff on leaf tobacco would be made effective from the present 5.2 cents per pound (for unstemmed leaf) to 4.3 cents per pound. This new rate would represent a compromise between the Belgian tobacco farmers who favor a high protective rate, and the Netherlands tobacco merchants, who supported a sharp decrease.

ITALY INCREASES
CIGARETTE OUTPUT

During the first quarter of 1947, Italian cigarette production amounted to 11.6 million pounds, or 65 percent of the country's total output of tobacco products.

In prewar years, Italy's factories turned out an average of 9.3 million pounds of cigarettes each quarter and these represented only 58 percent of the total quantity of products manufactured. If the first quarter rate of manufacture continues during the remainder of 1947, cigarette output may reach nearly 47 million pounds this year, compared with an average of about 37 million during the year 1934-38.

This growing trend toward cigarettes and away from other forms of tobacco products, is evident in most of the other important tobacco-consuming nations of the world.

COTTONBRAZIL'S COTTON CROP
ESTIMATE LOWER

The 1946-47 cotton crop in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, is now estimated by a federal government official at less than 800,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) compared with an earlier estimate of 1,057,000 bales and the 1945-46 crop of 800,000 bales.

Cotton trade firms and members of the cotton exchange place the crop at 780,000 to 900,000 bales, compared with an estimate 1,000,000 bales about two months ago. Cotton acreage in Sao Paulo is reported to have been increased about 15 percent this year, but yields per acre are considerably lower.

Adding about 50,000 bales for other states in South Brazil and 450,000 for the North Brazil crop, it appears that the 1946-47 crop in all Brazil will be between 1,300,000 and 1,400,000 bales, or roughly equal to last year's small crop of 1,350,000 bales. These estimates may be too conservative because of a movement on the part of farmers to retain their unginned cotton temporarily in anticipation of higher prices.

Yields per acre in Sao Paulo were expected to average less than 145 pounds this year compared with normal yields of around 235 pounds and average yields of about 275 pounds under very favorable conditions. Low yields are attributed mostly to excessive rain during the growing period and the first month (March) of the picking season accompanied by heavy insect infestation and diseases. The quality of this year's crop is somewhat higher than last year however, as a result of favorable weather conditions in April, May, and June in most of the cotton areas.

Other factors mentioned as causes of reduced yields during the several years were lack of sufficient machinery, fertilizer and labor, failure to rotate crops and insufficient financing for small-farm owners and share-croppers. Members of cotton trade organizations in Sao Paulo have announced intentions to remedy some of these difficulties before planting of the next crop beginning in September.

Cotton stocks held by the Federal Government at the end of May amounted to 409,000 bales, a slight reduction from the 426,000 held at the end of April. Stocks held in other warehouses in Sao Paulo by various owners were reduced from 2,021,000 bales a year ago to 818,000 at the end of May.

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1947	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.....	7-3	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	43.00	35.84
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	40.75	33.96
Giza 7, Good.....	"	"	"	42.00	35.01
Giza 7, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	45.00	37.51
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	445.00	17.13
Broach, Fine.....	"	"	"	545.00	20.97
Sind American, Fine.....	"	"	"	550.00	21.17
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	635.00	24.44
Kampala, East African....	"	"	"	920.00	35.41
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B.....	7-5	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2640.00	35.65
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	101.4 lbs.	Sol	a/160.00	24.27
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	185.00	28.07
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5.....	7-4	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	115.00	18.92
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	"	"	115.00	18.92
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	151.50	24.93
Torreon		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16".....	7-3	101.4 lbs.	Peso	139.50	28.30

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

a/ Nominal.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

SWEDEN EASES
IMPORT CONTROLS

Easing of the import controls imposed by Sweden on March 15, which paves the way for a substantial movement of United States fruits and fruit products to that country during the next 12 months, is provided by the terms of an understanding reached between the Governments of the United States and Sweden, effective July 1, 1947.

Under the terms of the understanding, licenses are to be granted for the importation into Sweden of commodities listed in Schedule I of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement, and on the restricted list, to an amount, for the period from January 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948, equivalent to not less than 150 percent of the volume of like imports during the calendar year 1946. The quantities of other restricted commodities licensed for import will be determined in the discretion of Sweden.

Fruits and fruit products listed under Schedule I of the Trade Agreement of 1935 include fresh apples, pears, plums and grapefruit; dried apples, pears, apricots and peaches; raisins, sweet preserved pineapple in large containers and other preserved fruits including peaches, apricots, pears, mixed fruits for salad, pineapple and grapefruit.

The establishment of "hardship quotas" for commodities, such as raisins, which were imported in relatively small quantities in 1946, is under consideration. Such action would provide for the issuance of licenses for the importation of greater quantities of these commodities.

U. K. REVOKES GENERAL
IMPORT LICENSES

The British Ministry of Food, by order effective July 1, has suspended the importation under open general license of certain fruits and vegetables, including fresh pears, grapes and plums, from all except war-devastated countries.

The order, issued at midnight July 1, provides that shipments of fruits and vegetables which could be imported under open general license immediately prior to July 1, will be permitted entry without individual license if it can be shown they were shipped before July 1 and are imported before July 15. This showing must be made to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Customs and Excise. The order does not affect imports of quick frozen, dried, preserved, or dehydrated fruits and vegetables.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

LIVESTOCK MARKETINGS
IN CANADA SHOW
DOWNWARD TREND

Commercial livestock marketings in Canada for the first 24-week period ending June 14 (Jan.-June 14) of this year show a decline when compared with the same period for last year. Marketings of cattle and calves for the first 24 weeks were about 87 and 95 percent respectively of 1946, while hogs were almost 91 percent, and sheep and lambs about 82 percent.

Reduced livestock marketings during the quarter are reflected in the downward trend of inspected slaughter. Slaughterings, like marketings, showed a greater decline in the Prairie Provinces with decreases in Eastern Canada being less severe. Cattle slaughter for this period dropped almost 18 percent, calves nearly 6 percent, hogs 10 percent and sheep and lambs almost 19 percent from those of the first 24-week period of 1946.

As a result of decreased marketings and slaughterings, meat production for the first five months was about 13 percent below that of the first five months of last year. Slaughter weights of cattle, according to Canadian sources, were almost 4 pounds lighter, while hogs were more than 3 pounds heavier than was the case in the first five months of 1946. The downward trend during this period affects domestic meat supplies and has materially curtailed exports of meat and meat products to the United Kingdom.

ARGENTINE WOOL SHIPMENTS TO U.S.
SMALLER, COARSE WOOLS PREDOMINATE

Argentine wool shipments to the United States for the first 8 months of the current season (October - May 31) were approximately 110 million pounds or only a little over 1/3 of last season's heavy shipments. Approximately 84 million pounds or 76 percent of the total consisted of coarse crossbred wool of 40's and below quality and of Cordoba carpet wool. This compares with 212 million pounds of similar grades shipped in the same period a year earlier or 69 percent of the total to the United States.

Wool shipments from Argentina to all destinations during the 8 month period of this season reached approximately 198 million pounds compared with 380 million pounds last season and an average for the prewar years 1934-35 to 1938-39 of 238 million pounds. Continental Europe has taken the bulk of the finer wool shipped so far this season, with Belgium and France taking the largest quantities. Before the war, in the seasons 1934-35 to 1938-39, 51 percent of the Argentine wool exports were to Continental Europe with only about 18 percent going to the United States.

Recent information indicates that prices of coarse wool are showing a stronger tendency with some second clip wool selling at 17 cents (U.S.) per pound grease basis, cost and freight United States port. The fact that the Argentine government is again granting loans to coarse wool producers is given as among the reasons for the stronger market. The price of finer wools has remained strong as a result of purchases by the Soviet Union and Spain as well as the possibility of conclusion of trade agreements with France, Finland, Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

ARGENTINA: Declared exports of wool to the United States by grades, October 1 - May 31, 1942-43 -- 1946-47 1/

Grades	October 1 - May 31									
	1942-43		1943-44		1944-45		1945-46		1946-47	
	: 1,000	: per-	: 1,000	: per-	: 1,000	: per-	: 1,000	: per-	: 1,000	: per-
	: pounds:	: cent	: pounds:	: cent	: pounds:	: cent	: pounds:	: cent	: pounds:	: cent
	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of	: : of
	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total	: :total
64s and over	: 4,720:	5	: ---	: ---	: 171:	---	: 8,291:	3	: 748:	1
60s	: 14,597:	16	: 620:	4	: 3,115:	4	: 18,917:	6	: 5,959:	5
56s	: 39,879:	45	: 3,730:	23	: 20,894:	27	: 31,971:	10	: 8,626:	8
50s	: 14,681:	16	: 2,193:	13	: 9,262:	12	: 16,481:	5	: 3,486:	3
46s	: 1,840:	2	: 305:	2	: 1,363:	2	: 1,943:	1	: 2,900:	3
44s	: 10,334:	12	: 1,312:	8	: 4,393:	5	: 18,036:	6	: 5,259:	5
Cordoba Carpet	: ---	: ---	: 701:	4	: 2,113:	3	: 21,733:	7	: 9,314:	8
Other 40s and below	: 3,212:	4	: 7,530:	46	: 37,073:	47	: 190,276:	62	: 74,591:	67
TOTAL	: 89,263:	100	: 16,391:	100	: 78,339:	100	: 307,648:	100	: 110,883:	100

1/ Compiled from consular invoices. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

SOUTH AFRICA CLOSES SUCCESSFUL WOOL SEASON

The wool selling season in South Africa closed with prices at a high level although the market showed a weakening tendency toward the end of June because most of the better grades of wool had been sold. Demand was keen throughout most of the season, at advancing prices. Competition at the end of the season, however, was reported as somewhat restricted, with buyers showing more caution.

May prices of 60-70's combing wool (10-12 months) was 35.5 to 44.2 cents per pound grease basis and averaged about 70 percent above the control prices of a year earlier. Prices of spinner's types were about 15 percent higher and inferior or unclassified types were about 25 to 30 percent lower than combing wool.

Offerings at auction during the 11-month period (July 1 - May 30) totaled 226 million pounds or about 1 million pounds more than the average for the same period of the 5 seasons of 1934-35 to 1938-39. Approximately 73 percent of these offerings were sold at public auction and probably much of the remainder at private sales.

Declared exports to the United States for the 11-month period amounted to 55 million pounds compared with 114 million pounds for the same period of 1945-46. The average for the war years was 36 million pounds. Prior to the war only a very small proportion of South African wool was marketed in the United States. Total exports for the entire 1945-46 season, according to official figures, amounted to 284 million pounds. Out of this, 146 million pounds were exported to the United States, 34 million to France, 32 million to Italy, 20 million to Belgium and 17 million to the United Kingdom. Most of the remainder was distributed in small quantities to the other countries in continental Europe.

In the 5 prewar years, more South African wool was exported to Germany than to any other country owing to a barter agreement whereby Germany furnished manufactured products in exchange for raw wool. Other important destinations were France, United Kingdom, Italy, and Belgium.

CITRUS

(Continued from Page 441)

In Asia Minor, the Palestine crop of 440,000 boxes is about 26 percent above the 1945-46 production but about 5 times the prewar average. The Lebanon crop of 435,000 boxes is about equal to prewar production. In South America, production has been increasing during the past two seasons. The 1946-47 crop is estimated at 2.9 million boxes. A decrease in Brazil's production is offset by increased production in Chile and Argentina. Further increase, particularly in Chile, is indicated from recent reports. The African crop of 567 thousand boxes is slightly under the 1945-46 figure while the 487 thousand box crop in Australia and New Zealand is about one-fourth larger than the previous season's production.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, Gustave Burmeister, Monroe McCown, L. B. Bacon, K. H. Wylie and M. E. Long.

